

## MEMORIAL AND JOINT RESOLUTION

RELATIVE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CANAL FROM THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO THE ILLINOIS RIVER, AT HENNEPIN, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

WHEREAS, The agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests, not only of the Northwest, but of the entire country, are largely dependent for their development upon a full enjoyment of facilities for the transportation of products and commodities; and

WHEREAS, The two great interior water-routes of transportation in the United States are those of the Mississippi river, from north to south, and of the lakes, with the Erie canal and Hudson river, from west to east; and

WHEREAS, A direct all-water connection between these two great routes is indispensable to a complete service to the interests which so imperatively demand improved and cheaper routes of transportation, since without such a connection there can be no real use by the Northwest of a water-route to the East, nor by the East to the Northwest; and

WHEREAS, The general assembly of the State of Iowa did in 1864, in 1870, again in 1874, and still again in 1882, and in 1882, memorialize congress for the construction of a canal to connect the Mississippi river with the Illinois river, on a line running eastward from or near Rock Island; and

WHEREAS, Various boards of trade and commercial bodies, both east and west, together with the legislatures of numerous States, are urging upon congress the construction of said canal; and

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States, by act of August 2, 1882, authorized the secretary of war to cause a survey to be made for the purpose of ascertaining the most practicable route for such proposed canal, which survey has been made and an official report thereof transmitted to congress; therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate, the House concurring,* That our senators and representatives in congress be requested to vote for and use their active influence to effect such legislation in congress as will secure the construction at an early day of said canal, for commercial purposes, from Hennepin, on the Illinois river, to or near Rock Island, on the Mississippi river, and to vote a liberal appropriation therefor, to the end that said canal may be completed and opened to the commerce of the country at the earliest date possible.

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby instructed to forthwith transmit a duly certified copy hereof to each of our representatives and senators in congress.